

PATENT
674509-2052.1**REMARK**

Claims 1-44, 47 and 49 are now pending. Claims 1-44, 47 and 49 have been amended, and claims 45-46, 48 and 50-54 have been canceled, without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents.

No new matter is added.

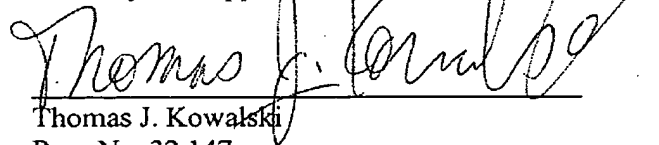
It is submitted that these claims are and were in full compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C §112. In addition, the amendment and remarks herein are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§101, 102, 103 or 112; but rather the amendments and remarks herein are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicants are entitled. Support for the amended claims is found throughout the specification and in the claims as originally filed.

It is believed that no fees are due by entry of this paper, however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additionally required fees, or to credit any overpayment in fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

Applicants verily believe that the claims as presented herein place the application in condition for examination and allowance. Accordingly, an early and favorable examination on the merits, and prompt issuance of a Notice of Allowance, are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP
Attorneys for Applicants



Thomas J. Kowalski
Reg. No. 32,147
Angela M. Collison
Reg. No. 51,107
(212) 588-0800